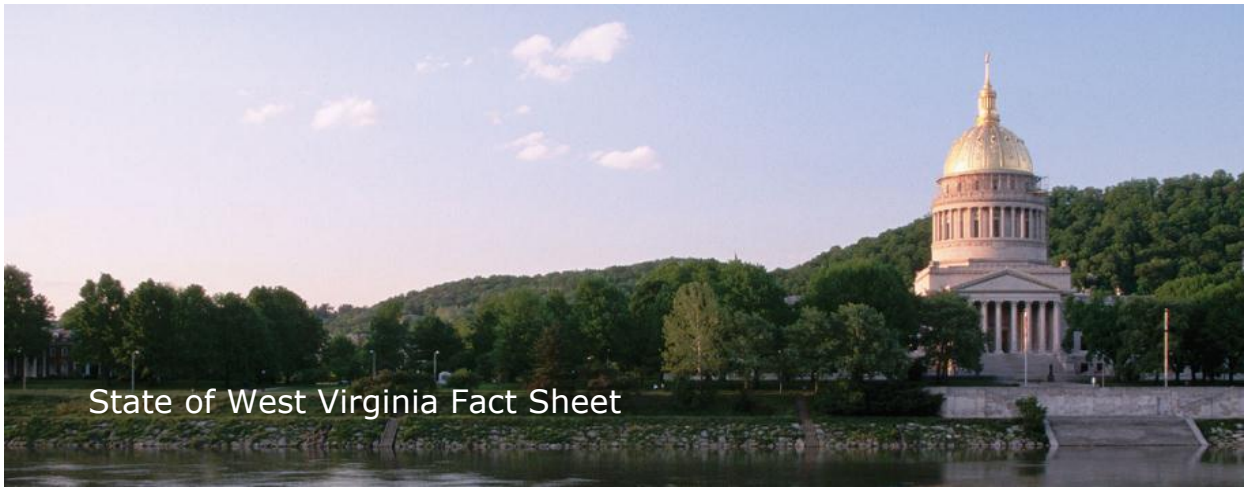
West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Hancock County Office of Emergency Management

Media Information

Beaver Valley Power Station

2010



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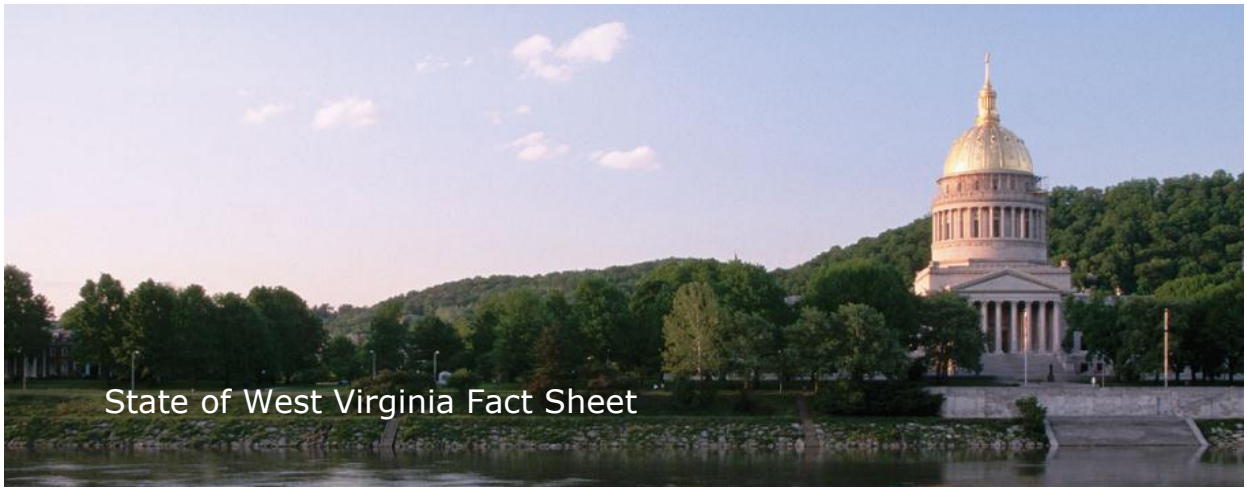

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Beaver Valley Power Station - Shippingport, Pennsylvania

Beaver Valley Power Station is a two unit nuclear power plant located in Shippingport, Pennsylvania about 5 miles west of West Virginia. The Beaver Valley plant is operated by FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company a subsidiary of FirstEnergy. The plant consists of two Westinghouse pressurized water reactors that started operation on July 2nd, 1976, for Unit One, and August 14th, 1987, for Unit Two. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has licensed Unit One to operate through January 29th, 2036 and Unit Two through May 27th, 2047.

The State of West Virginia and Hancock County coordinate emergency response plans and activities with Beaver Valley Power Station, the State of Ohio and Columbiana County, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Beaver County. State and county agencies have the primary responsibility for the safety of the general public outside of the nuclear facility. Most of these protective actions center around a 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone that includes parts of Hancock County, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission – Emergency Classification Levels

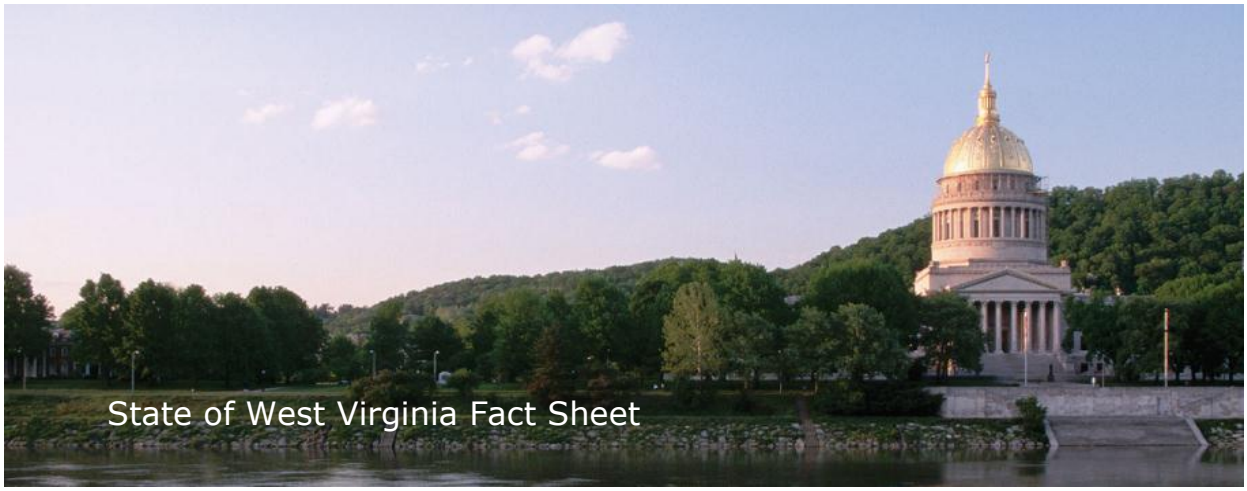
For planning purposes, the NRC defines two emergency planning zones (EPZs) around each nuclear power plant. The exact size and configuration of the zones vary from plant to plant due to local emergency response needs and capabilities, population, land characteristics, access routes, and jurisdictional boundaries. The plume exposure pathway EPZ extends about 10 miles in radius around a plant; its primary concern is the exposure of the public to, and the inhalation of, airborne radioactive contamination. The ingestion pathway EPZ extends about 50 miles in radius around a plant; its primary concern is the ingestion of food and liquid that is contaminated by radioactivity. Emergency Classification is a set of plant conditions which indicate a level of risk to the public. Nuclear power plants use the four emergency classifications listed below in order of increasing severity.

Notification of Unusual Event – The least serious classification. Under this category, events are in process or have occurred which indicate potential degradation in the level of safety of the plant, or indicate a security threat to facility protection. No release of radioactive material requiring offsite response or monitoring is expected unless further degradation occurs.

Alert - At alert, events are in process or have occurred that involve an actual or potential substantial degradation in the level of safety of the plant, or a security event that involves probable life threatening risk to site personnel or damage to site equipment because of intentional malicious dedicated efforts of hostile action. Any releases of radioactive material from the plant are expected to be limited to a small fraction of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) protective action guides (PAGs).

Site Area Emergency - A site area emergency involves events in process or which have occurred that result in actual or likely major failures of plant functions needed for protection of the public or security events that result in intentional damage or malicious acts (1) toward site personnel or equipment that could lead to the likely failure of, or (2) prevents effective access to equipment needed for the protection of the public. Any releases of radioactive material are not expected to exceed the EPA PAGs except near the site boundary.

General Emergency – The most serious classification. A general emergency involves actual or imminent substantial core damage or melting of reactor fuel with the potential for loss of containment integrity or security events that result in an actual loss of physical control of the facility. Radioactive releases during a general emergency can reasonably be expected to exceed the EPA PAGs for more than the immediate site area.



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Notification of an Emergency

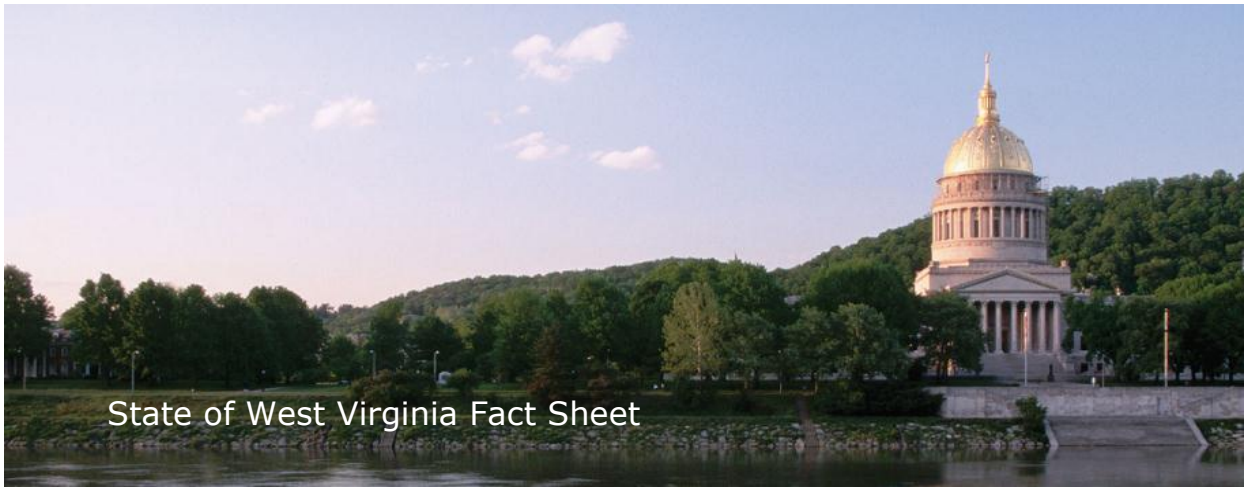
If there is an emergency, you will be warned in one or more ways in the Hancock County and Weirton area and informed of the protective action(s) to take. Early warning sirens are located in many parts of our area. A steady, high-pitched tone of the siren for three minutes means that you should turn on the radio or television to a local station for information on what to do. Emergency information will be broadcast by the Emergency Alert System (EAS).

In other areas, emergency vehicles with loud speakers will travel through the affected neighborhoods to provide emergency warning. If you hear a warning through this method, turn on your radio or TV station to listen to the EAS for instructions. Cable TV stations serving some of our areas will convey emergency "warnings" and/or general information to those households with cable TV service. If the message is only a "warning," you will be instructed to tune in to a local EAS station.

The Emergency Alert System is activated by key officials in our area and is used to provide emergency information and directions over local radio and TV stations as listed below. WWVA Radio (1170 AM) and WTRF TV (Channel 7) are the lead stations for the Northern Panhandle of West Virginia. The other stations repeat the messages on a sequential basis. EAS information is updated every 10-20 minutes. Stay tuned to your EAS Station until the emergency is over.

EAS Stations for the Northern Panhandle of West Virginia

AM Radio	Television	FM Radio
WWVA 1170	WTRF TV Channel 7	WOVK 98.7
WEIR 1430	WTOV TV Channel 9	WEEL 95.7
WOMP 1290		WKWK 97.3
WBBD 1400		WUKL 105.5
		WYJK 100.5
		WEGW 107.5
		WVNP 89.9



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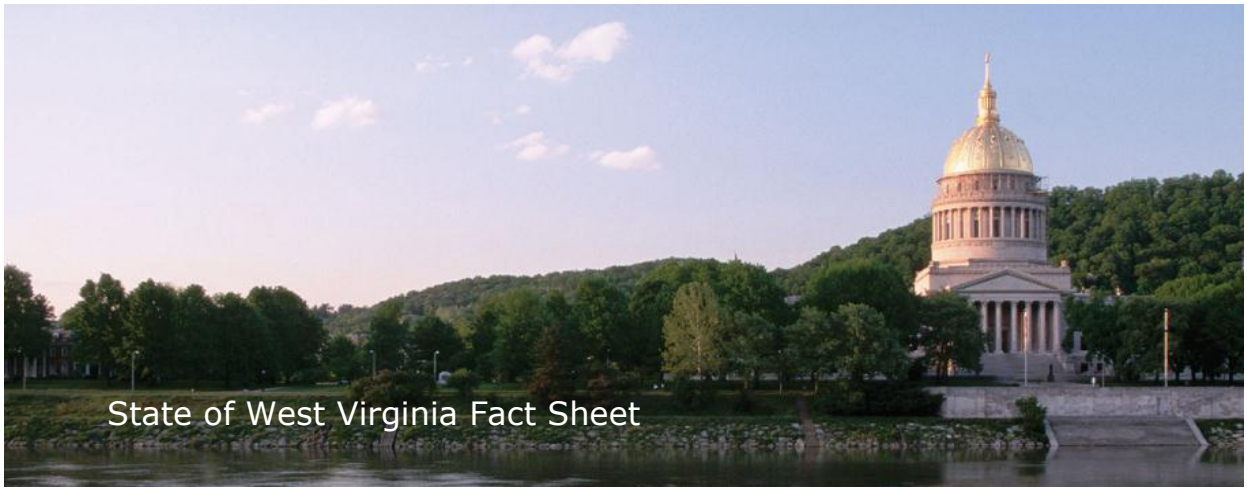
Possible Emergency Protective Actions

Sheltering-in-Place – This protective action may be the most proper response to an emergency. All persons and pets should stay indoors with all doors and windows closed while taking care to turn off all heating and cooling systems with intakes outside and closing fireplace dampers. Residents should continue to stay tuned to EAS Stations for further instructions. Residents should remain inside until officially notified that sheltering-in-place is no longer needed.

Evacuation – This is the primary protective measure to an emergency at Beaver Valley Power Station. All persons should gather needed personal items (clothing, medication, etc.) and precede along designated evacuation routes to reception centers. Residents should continue to stay tuned to EAS Stations for further instructions.

Control of Food Sources – Care should be taken to avoid eating or drinking anything that could have been contaminated by radioactive sources. Animals should be kept inside and placed on stored feed and water, if possible.

Administration of Potassium Iodide (KI) – If the administration of potassium iodide is authorized residents may take a dose as directed. Those allergic to iodine should not take potassium iodide. This medication assists in preventing the thyroid from absorbing radioactive iodine. It is important, that residents should only take potassium iodide when and as directed. Evacuation should not be delayed to locate a supply of potassium iodide. The decision to take potassium iodide is voluntary and the responsibility of the individual residents affected.



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Responsibilities of the State of West Virginia

The primary purpose of the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (WVDHSEM) is to provide coordination to assist local emergency managers and first responders to provide for the protection of life and property. Guided by West Virginia State Code and the West Virginia Emergency Operations Plan, the agency is responsible for disaster preparedness, response and recovery, and mitigation. During state emergencies, this division activates the State Emergency Operations Center to respond to and coordinate materials and assistance needed by local emergency services to protect lives and property. Local emergency management offices provide direct assistance to citizens. WVDHSEM provides assistance to local emergency management offices. The agency also coordinates the recovery efforts after the disaster with all responsible government agencies. After a federal disaster declaration, the WVDHSEM works closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to administer assistance programs.

In the event of a nuclear accident at Beaver Valley Power Station, the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management will activate the State Emergency Operations Center. Other state, county, federal, and non-governmental agencies will staff the emergency operations center to provide accident assessment, traffic control, monitoring, relocation, and health care capabilities. The EOC would also coordinate with appropriate agencies to fill any required resources for local emergency responders to effectively respond to an emergency. As appropriate, the Governor of the State of West Virginia may declare a State of Emergency for areas affected by any nuclear accident, which allows the authorization of the West Virginia National Guard and streamlines assistance from state and federal agencies to local jurisdictions. During a state of emergency, the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management formally contacts the Federal Emergency Management Agency through the Governor of the State of West Virginia, to request federal assistance and the implementation of the Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan. FEMA contacts federal agencies to assist in the response to the nuclear incident, including the U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and Environmental Protection Agency. These agencies coordinate any assistance to local jurisdictions through the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Finally, West Virginia decides on protective actions based on radiological conditions at the plant and off-site, as well as recommendations from Beaver Valley Power Station.